

War, the Korean War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Vietnam War.

One example of his heroic actions occurred during the Vietnam War, when he and his men fought off enemy combatants behind enemy lines for three hours in South Vietnam. Under James' leadership, the American Naval force, killed roughly one thousand Viet Cong guerrillas, destroyed over 60 vessels, and disrupted a major enemy logistic operation.

James retired on April 26, 1967 as the most highly decorated enlisted sailor in the history of the United States Navy. He was the recipient of multiple awards during his service in the Navy, including the Navy Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Korean Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal and during his last seven months in the Navy, James received every sea-service award for heroism.

On May 14, 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson, in the name of Congress, presented James Elliot Williams the Medal of Honor. In the 20th century, three sailors of American Indian heritage received the medal—James was one of the three.

Mr. Speaker it is my privilege to put forth this legislation with the entire South Carolina delegation—to honor the life of service and sacrifice of James Elliot Williams.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4301.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BLOOMINGDALE VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4574) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West Schick Road in Bloomington, Illinois, as the "Bloomington Veterans Memorial Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4574

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BLOOMINGDALE VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 108 West Schick Road in Bloomington, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Bloomington Veterans Memorial Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Bloomington Veterans Memorial Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks, and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to stand with my colleague from Illinois in support of H.R. 4574, introduced by Congressman KRISHNAMOORTHY. The bill names the United States Post Office at 108 West Schick Road in Bloomington, Illinois, after Bloomington veterans.

The Eighth Congressional District of Illinois is home to more than 23,000 veterans, including many Active-Duty veterans groups. This bill honors Bloomington, Illinois, veterans who served this country proudly and continue to be a positive force in the community.

We thank the veterans of Bloomington and all veterans for their service, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, my legislation would designate the U.S. Postal Service facility at 108 West Schick Road in Bloomington, Illinois, as the Bloomington Veterans Memorial Post Office Building in recognition of all the men and women who have served our Nation with distinction and honor.

I would like to thank Chairman GOWDY and Ranking Member CUMMINGS for their help in moving this bill through the committee, as well as Majority Leader MCCARTHY for helping to secure floor time for consideration.

This is merely a step, one step, to help citizens in Bloomington and every part of my district recognize the sacrifices and celebrate the contributions of our friends, families, and neighbors who chose a life of service to the people of the United States.

Veterans in every community deserve our thanks and gratitude. The Bloomington Veterans Memorial Post Office will serve as a living reminder of the service of every soldier, sailor, coastguardsman, airman, and marine, whose sacrifices helped keep Americans safe. It is my hope that this small daily reminder will help us all to remember that we can and must do more to support our veterans, from those just returning home to those who fought long ago and still bear the scars of their service.

Mr. Speaker, we all agree that our Nation's veterans continue to face serious challenges. Today, an estimated 39,471 veterans are homeless, and the number of young veterans struggling with homelessness is increasing. In my

home State of Illinois alone, 193 veterans took their own life in 1 year, a rate more than twice as high as the nonveteran population of Illinois.

Veterans are more likely to struggle with PTSD as well as substance abuse disorders than nonveterans. It is clear that we are failing those who never failed us. We have a solemn obligation to eliminate veteran homelessness, to improve access to essential health services, and ensure veterans are able to transition to the civilian workforce and secure family-sustaining jobs.

We need to prioritize mental health support and substance use prevention, and we need to exercise strong oversight over the VA to ensure that no veteran is ever denied medical care or support services.

For the men and women who have protected my own American Dream, I hope to make theirs easier to achieve. We must all do more to recognize those willing to give what Lincoln called "the last full measure of devotion" to their country.

It is my hope that the new Bloomington Veterans Memorial Post Office Building will foster both gratitude and understanding in our community, and I urge every Member to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to echo the comments of my colleague from Illinois and also hope that the name of this post office will recognize the millions of veterans throughout our history that have returned home, led productive lives, have entered further public service, and have done so with gratitude, without issues, and have rendered great service to the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to make the gentleman from Illinois also aware that I have no further speakers and am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Congressman RUSSELL for those eloquent words and thank him for his service to our country as a veteran, as well, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge the passage of H.R. 4574, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4574.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAURICE D. HINCHEY POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill